

Appl. No. 10/761,315  
Amdt. dated February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006  
Reply to Office action of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005

### Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~the display further~~ step (b) comprises ~~associates associating~~ a visual control with each of said corner or side ~~of each region which~~ enables of the boundary frame allowing entering said interactive crop-to-fill mode, said visual ~~controls to be being~~ rendered visible either upon selection of ~~the region~~ a region defined by said ~~boundary frame~~, upon entry into the said region by a the pointing device, or at all times.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~the step of entering of step (b) and~~ subsequently leaving the interactive crop-to-fill mode comprises pressing a button on a computer mouse over a visual control associated with one of ~~the selected regions~~ said corner or side of the ~~boundary frame~~, and leaving the interactive crop-to-fill mode comprises subsequently releasing the button.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~the step of entering of step (b) and~~ subsequently leaving the interactive segmenting mode comprises pressing a key on the a keyboard, and leaving the interactive crop-to-fill mode comprises subsequently releasing it said key.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~the specification of the source image~~ extent is computed by cropping of step (c) comprises:

- determining on which corner of said source extent of said source image is being ~~manipulated~~ or side of the boundary frame the positioning device has been positioned;

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- determining ~~the~~ a current position of a the pointing device in a coordinate system determined by ~~the~~ an original location and size of said ~~source extent~~ image prior to interaction said cropping;

- updating the ~~extent of said source extent and therefore the subregion of said source image to be drawn within said containing region~~ image within the boundary frame such that the corner ~~of said source image~~ or side of the boundary frame the positioning device has been positioned on is set to said current pointer position in said ~~source image~~ coordinate system.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 13, ~~wherein the cropping is applied to said source image when~~ further comprising a step of (d) exiting the crop-to-fill mode is exited, and the user is further able to abort cropping, the method for aborting comprising Pressing a key, such as the 'escape' key, said exiting comprising applying the cropping of step (c) to said image.

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein ~~the display further associates~~ step (b) comprises associating a visual control with each of said corner or side of each region ~~which enables the boundary frame allowing entering said~~ interactive crop-to-fill mode, said visual controls to be being rendered visible either upon selection of the a region defined by said boundary frame, upon entry into the said region by [( a )] the pointing device, or at all times.

9. (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the entering of step ~~of entering and leaving the interactive crop-to-fill mode (b)~~ comprises pressing a button on a computer mouse over a visual control associated with one of the selected regions said corner or side of the boundary frame, and leaving the interactive crop-to-fill mode comprises subsequently releasing the button.

10. (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the entering of step ~~of entering and leaving the interactive segmenting mode (b)~~ comprises pressing a key on the a

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keyboard, and leaving the interactive crop-to-fill mode comprises subsequently releasing # said key.

11. (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the ~~specification of the source image extent is computed by~~ cropping of step (c) comprises:

- ~~determining on which corner of the region said source image is being manipulated or side of the boundary frame the positioning device has been positioned;~~
- ~~determining the a current position of the mouse pointer the pointing device in a coordinate system determined by the an original location and size of the source said image prior to interaction said cropping;~~
- ~~updating the extent of said image drawn within said containing region image within the boundary frame such that the corner of said image or side of the boundary frame the poiting device has been positioned on is set to said current pointer position in said source image coordinate system.~~

12. (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim 15, ~~wherein the cropping is applied to the contained image when~~ further comprising a step (d) of exiting the crop-to-fill mode, is exited, and the user is further able to abort cropping, the method for aborting comprising pressing a key said exiting comprising applying the cropping of step (c) to said image.

13. (currently amended) A computer implemented method for performing a crop-to-fill operation on an image, comprising the steps of:

- (a) defining said image by automatically or manually containing an at least a portion of a source image within a bounding frame, hiding any portion of said source image outside of said bounding frame;
- (b) entering an interactive crop-to-fill mode ~~with~~ by positioning a pointing device at a corner or side of said bounding frame;
- (c) cropping said image by moving said pointing device in order to ~~crop said image, thereby creating a cropped image, said, said cropping step being either zooming in or zooming out said~~

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~~image in order to create a cropped image, said cropped image continuously filling said bounding frame and an aspect ratio thereof being maintained equal to an aspect ratio of the bounding frame as said image is being cropped, said image being thereby either zoomed in or zoomed out within said boundary frame simultaneously to said cropping;~~ and

~~(d) as said image is being cropped, simultaneously maintaining an aspect ratio equal to an aspect ratio of said bounding frame.~~

14. (currently amended) A method according to claim 13, wherein said pointing device is a mouse, and wherein, in step (c), ~~said step of~~ moving said pointing device is comprises moving said mouse towards the center of the image to zoom in and away from the center to zoom out.

15. (currently amended) A computer readable medium ~~leaving~~ having computer instructions stored thereon to ~~implementing~~ implement a method for ~~performing method for~~ performing a crop-to-fill operation on an image, comprising the steps of:

(a) defining said image by automatically or manually containing an at least a portion of a source image within a bounding frame, ~~hiding any portion of said source image outside of said bounding frame;~~

(b) entering an interactive crop-to-fill mode ~~with~~ by positioning a pointing device at a corner or side of said bounding frame;

(c) cropping said image by moving said pointing device, thereby creating a cropped image ~~in order to crop said image, said cropping step being either zooming in or zooming out said image in order to create a cropped image, said cropped image constantly~~ continuously filling said bounding frame and an aspect ratio thereof being maintained equal to an aspect ratio of the boundary frame as said image is being cropped, said image being thereby either zoomed in or zoomed out within said boundary frame simultaneously to said cropping; ~~and (d) as said image is being cropped, simultaneously maintaining an aspect ratio equal to an aspect ratio of said bounding frame.~~

16. (currently amended) A system for performing a crop-to-fill operation on an image comprising:

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- a display for displaying an image;
- means for defining said image by automatically or manually containing an at least a portion of a source image displayed on said display within a bounding frame and for hiding any portion of said source image outside said frame;
- means for entering an interactive crop-to-fill mode with a pointing device;
- means responsive to movement of said pointing device to crop said image in order to create a cropped image, said means responsive to movement ~~also constantly filling said bounding frame as said image is being cropped, and means for maintaining an aspect ratio equal to an aspect ratio of said bounding frame as said image is being cropped continuously filling said bounding frame with the cropped image and maintaining an aspect ratio thereof equal to an aspect ratio of the bounding frame as said image is being cropped, said image being thereby either zoomed in or zoomed out within said boundary frame simultaneously to said cropping.~~

17. (currently amended) A method according to claim 13, wherein in step (c); ~~said zooming step is~~ said cropping results in a scaling of said image centered about the corner of said bounding frame opposite to that being manipulated.

18. (currently amended) A computer readable medium according to claim 44 15, wherein ~~said zooming step is in step (c), said cropping results in~~ a scaling of said image centered about the corner of said bounding frame opposite to that being manipulated.

19. (new) A method according to claim 6, further comprising an optional step (e) of aborting said cropping, said aborting comprising pressing a predetermined key.

20. (new) A computer readable medium according to claim 12, further comprising an optional step (e) of aborting said cropping, said aborting comprising pressing a predetermined key.